

**REMARKS**

Pursuant to a telephone interview with the Examiner yesterday during which the claims above were discussed, Applicants have amended claims 1, 9, and 17 to substantially incorporate the subject matter of now cancelled claims 39, 42, and 45 along with a minor antecedent basis correction in each of these claims as set forth above. Additionally, Applicants have amended the dependency of claims 40, 43, and 46 in view of the cancellation of claims 39, 42, and 45. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. Applicants note with great appreciation the Examiner's indication that these changes will place the above-identified patent application in condition for allowance. In view of all of the foregoing, Applicants submit that this case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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